



REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION

ONE YEAR OPTION

900+ Clock Hour Programs – Optometric Technology

Background:

To provide another option for adult students to apply prior learning toward a degree, Ohio legislators established what has come to be known as the One-Year-Option through Section 363.120 House Bill 59 of the 130th General Assembly. The Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education, in consultation with the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation, was tasked to establish a One-Year Option credit articulation system in which graduates of Ohio's adult career-technical institutions who complete a 900-hour program of study AND obtain an industry-recognized credential approved by the Chancellor will be able to receive 30 technical semester credit hours toward a technical degree upon enrollment in a public institution of higher education. The Chancellor was also to recommend a process to award proportional semester credit hours for adult career-technical institution students who complete a program of study between 600 and 899 hours AND obtain an industry-recognized credential approved by the Chancellor. The Chancellor convened a broad group of stakeholders to develop a system of articulation for the One Year Option that was presented in a report to the legislature called, *"Getting to 30: Establishing a One Year Option Credit Articulation System for Ohio."*

In order to implement the system of articulation developed with the stakeholders as well as address accreditation requirements for degree granting institutions, the Chancellor convened Credit Affirmation Teams (CATs) to conduct a peer review of programs and certifications for affirmation for a block of 30 semester hours of technical credit. The CATs were comprised of faculty and administrators from Ohio Technical Centers (OTCs) and an equal number from public degree granting colleges and universities in Ohio. The CATs were organized by four discipline clusters: Health and Allied Health, Building and Industrial Technology, Business and Information Technology, and Services. They were charged with reviewing the certifications and, if necessary, program content, to affirm that students completing the selected program at an Ohio Technical Center and earned approved certifications had demonstrated competencies equivalent to 30 semester hours of technical credit. This technical credit would then be granted, as a block, upon enrollment in a degree granting institution. Additional subject matter experts were consulted when core team members did not have sufficient content knowledge of the program being reviewed.

Recommendation

As detailed in the attached template, the Health and Allied Health Credit Affirmation Team recommends that students will be eligible for a block of 30 semester hours of technical credit towards an *Associate of Technical Studies in Health and Allied Health Technology* when:

- the student has successfully completed a 900+ clock hour program in Optometric Technology at an Ohio Technical Center.

And currently holds the following credential:


- American Optometric Association Certified Paraoptometric (CPOT)

Please note this certification must be current, valid, and in good standing.

End of Comment Period: July 17, 2015 at 2:15 pm
No comments received, recommend approval

RECOMMENDATION

The Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs has verified that this pathway has met the standards and requirements of the Ohio Board of Regents.

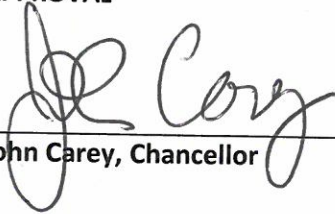


7/22/15

Stephanie Davidson, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs

Date

APPROVAL



7/30/15

John Carey, Chancellor

Date

APR

One-Year Option
Certification Affirmation Template

The Program Affirmation Template is designed to provide a common matrix for a peer review process acceptable to the Higher Learning Commission to soundly affirm award 30 semester hours of technical credit for Ohio Technical Center graduates who are eligible for the One Year Option. The template should be completed for every program/subject and signed by the co-chairs of each of the four cluster program areas for every Industry-recognized credential and program reviewed.

Please note: All Ohio Technical Centers must be accredited by one of the following: [Council on Occupational Education \(COE\)](#) and/or [Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges \(ACCSC\)](#).

Program Name:	Cluster	
Optometric Technology	<input type="checkbox"/> Business & Information Technologies <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health/Allied Health	
CIP Code: 51.1802	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial Trades <input type="checkbox"/> Service Industries & Agriculture	
STEP ONE: CREDENTIAL REVIEW		
	Details/Explanation	Comments
Primary Industry Credential (if there are competing certifications complete page multiple times)	Name: American Optometric Association Certified Paraoptometric (CPOT) Type: <input type="checkbox"/> License <input type="checkbox"/> Registry <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certification	Link to credential website: http://www.aoa.org/paraoptometrics/certification/certified-paraoptometric-technician-%28cpot%29?sso=y
Description of essential elements of primary credential.	Assists optometrists in providing vision care to patients. Assume routine and technical aspects of vision care services. In order to be eligible to sit for the CPOT credential students must meet requirements for one of the following two pathways. <u>Pathway 1:</u> Minimum of six months additional employment in the eye care filed as a Certified Paraoptometric Assistant (CPO). <u>Pathway 2:</u> Be a graduate or student currently enrolled in the last semester of study of an Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) approved optometric technician program.	Link to the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) optometric technician accreditation manual: http://www.aoa.org/documents/students/Technician_Manual_01_2011_.pdf

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Hour Requirements (includes any instructional, lab/practice hours, or internship hours).	There are no specific hours required by the American Optometric Association. However, all content must be covered.	
Competencies demonstrated by credential attainment.	<p>The curriculum of the program must prepare students for employment as optometric technicians. At a minimum the graduate must be able to perform the following competencies.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Skillfully and accurately collect data to be used by the optometrist for diagnostic purposes including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Case history, visual acuity, color and depth perception testing• Interpupillary distance measurement, dominant eye and extraocular muscle testing• Cover test and pupil testing• Visual field testing• Keratometry• Pachymetry• Tonometry• Blood pressure testing• Maintain and calibrate ophthalmic equipment2. Apply ethical principles as they pertain to optometric practice, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain confidentiality• Maintain applicable ethical and legal standards• Perform competently within the scope of training and education3. Assist the optometrist in the care of the patient, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Administer and record specified topical and oral medications at the direction of the optometrist• Identify ocular emergencies and take appropriate action• Prepare the examination and treatment area	

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- Identify medical terms of common ocular and systemic conditions/diseases.
- Implement emergency procedures and administer first aid, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation
- Implement infection control protocols
- 4. Assist patients in the optical dispensary, including:
 - Explaining the features and benefits during the selection of frames and lenses
 - Obtain needed facial and lens measurements
 - Prepare and submit eyewear orders
 - Neutralize and verify lenses
 - Dispense, adjust and repair eyewear for the patient
- 5. Assist the optometrist in the fitting and evaluation of contact lenses, including:
 - Assist in the contact lens fitting examination
 - Order and verify contact lenses
 - Instruct patients in contact lens hygiene, insertion, removal and care
 - Maintain contact lens inventory
- 6. Perform general office procedures, including:
 - Use proper telephone etiquette
 - Schedule appointments
 - Maintain patient records including electronic medical records
 - Perform financial transactions
 - Understand the third party reimbursement process
 - Maintain office and clinic inventory
 - Manage recall system

Rationale:

- 1) In order to be eligible to sit for the Certified Paraoptometric Technician (CPOT) certification exam, candidates must be a recent graduate of or in the last semester of study in an Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) approved optometric technician program.

OR

- 2) Have a minimum of one year employment in the eye care field with at least six months of employment as a

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Certification Affirmation Template

Certified Paraoptometric Assistant (CPOA).

- 3) The credentialing exam is valid, reliable, and peer-reviewed regularly to ensure that the content accurately measures the intended competencies.
- 4) ACOE is recognized by the US. Department of Education and is accredited by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).
- 5) The CPOT exam is administered by a secure, well-respected, third-party testing company (PSI) and is primarily delivered in computer-based format to increase security & better maintain up-to-date content delivery.
- 6) The competencies measured by the CPOT exam are a result of job-analysis studies and frequent peer-review and thus directly reflect the industry standards as established by the American Optometric Association.
- 7) In order to maintain CPOT certification, individuals must complete 18 hours of continuing education every 3 years.

Based upon the academic rigor, accreditation requirements, certification eligibility standards, test development and test administration standards, the Health Credit Affirmation Team believe that attaining valid Certified Paraoptometric Technician credential following completion of a 900+ Ohio Technical Center (OTC) Optometric Technician program to be equivalent to a block of 30 technical credits for the One-Year Option.

ONLY IF NECESSARY TO AFFIRM 30 CREDITS----STEP TWO: PROGRAM-RELATED COMPETENCIES OBTAINED OUTSIDE OF PRIMARY CREDENTIAL

	Details/Explanation	Comments
Additional related complementary credential(s) or badge(s) (e.g. OSHA 10, CPR).		
Competencies demonstrated by additional credential attainment.		
Description of additional		

One-Year Option
Certification Affirmation Template

program elements beyond primary credential.																																			
Program related competencies/learning outcomes outside of credential(s). Include how competencies are demonstrated.																																			
Other Parameters of Competency.																																			
Related Programs as of Fall 2015	Ohio Technical Center Miami Valley Career Technical Center	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: left;">Program Name</td> <td style="text-align: left;">Clock Hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Optometric Technician</td> <td>1018</td> </tr> </table>	Program Name	Clock Hours	Optometric Technician	1018																													
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OTHER COMMENTS.																																			
AFFIRMED NUMBER OF TECHNICAL BLOCK CREDITS	30 semester hours	LENGTH OF TIME CREDENTIAL CAN BE USED FOR ONE-YEAR OPTION Must have completed a 900+ hour Optometric Technology program at an OTC and hold a CPOT certification that is current, valid, and in good standing.																																	

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Co-chair signatures:



Chad Brown, Provost and Executive Vice President
Zane State College



Kelly Darney, Adult Education Director
Columbiana County Career & Technical Center

Date: 5/26/2015